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# Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

*[on the report of the Third Committee (A/57/551)]*

## 57/184. New international humanitarian order

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 55/73 of 4 December 2000 and those preceding it concerning the promotion of a new international humanitarian order and cooperation in the humanitarian field,[1]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General[2] and his previous reports[3] containing the views of Governments and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Recalling* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations, and the annex thereto,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing efforts of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in the context of the international response to emergencies,

*Reaffirming* the importance of adherence to internationally accepted norms and principles and the need to promote, as required, national and international legislation to meet actual and potential humanitarian challenges,

*Noting* the emphasis placed by the Secretary-General on promoting strict adherence to refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments,

*Recognizing* the importance of action at the national and regional levels and the role that regional organizations can play in certain cases to prevent humanitarian crises,

*Aware* of the important role that non-governmental agencies and the private sector can play in the humanitarian context,

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[1] Resolutions 36/136, 37/201, 38/125, 40/126, 42/120, 42/121, 43/129, 43/130, 45/101, 45/102, 47/106, 49/170, 51/74 and 53/124.

[2] A/57/583.

[3] A/37/145, A/38/450, A/40/358 and Add.1 and 2, A/41/472, A/43/734 and Add.1, A/45/524, A/47/352, A/49/577 and Corr.1, A/51/454, A/53/486 and A/55/545.

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/32 of 26 July 2002 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General in the humanitarian field, and urges Governments to assist him in promoting a new international humanitarian order corresponding to new realities and challenges, including the development of an agenda for humanitarian action;

2. *Calls upon* Governments to provide expertise and the necessary means to identify the building blocks of such an order and agenda, plan the architecture and undertake the required supplementary activities;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to promote strict adherence to refugee law, international humanitarian law, human rights and internationally accepted norms and principles in situations of armed conflict and complex emergencies;

4. *Reiterates* that international cooperation in the humanitarian field facilitates better understanding, mutual respect, confidence and tolerance among countries and peoples, thus contributing to a more just and non-violent world;

5. *Recognizes* that institutional arrangements and actions by governmental and non-governmental bodies require further strengthening so that they can respond more effectively and speedily to contemporary humanitarian problems;

6. *Invites* the Member States, the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to strengthen the capacities of regional and subregional organizations in the context of the response to complex humanitarian crises;

7. *Encourages* the private sector and non-governmental bodies to assist and support national and international efforts to respond to humanitarian challenges and to alleviate human suffering;

8. *Invites* the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues to reinforce further its activities and its cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the other relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain in contact with Governments and the relevant international and non-governmental bodies and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the progress made concerning the promotion of a new international humanitarian order and compliance with refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments in armed conflicts and emergency situations.

*77th plenary meeting*
*18 December 2002*